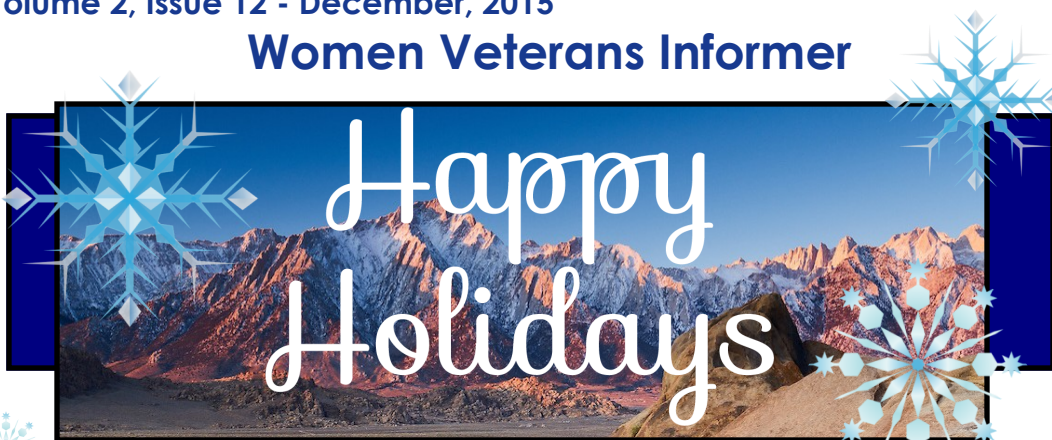


Women Veterans Informer

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Nevada Department of Veterans Services

proudly announces

Roberta "Bobi" Pike-Oates

as

December's Veteran of the Month.



Bobi Oates is a member of the Women Veterans of Nevada (WVON), she supports the organization in functions that is charged with supporting veterans by supplying food for events, providing research for veteran causes, and organizing meetings.

She is one of the few members in the group that takes an active part in supporting the Jr. ROTC cadets in fund raising activities for WVON. She represents WVON at several functions throughout the state and actively promotes WVON in the community to gain membership, assistance and to promote the overall wellness of women veterans.

Bobi has worked with the Nellis Women's History Committee over the past several years, and is an active member of the Air Force Association Thunderbird Chapter,

supporting the Air Force. She is an executive board member for WVON, as a Projects Officer and a member of the American Legion Post 76, the VFW Post 10047 and Military Women Across the Nation.

She is also a member of the Women Veterans of Nevada Ceremonial team that supports the funeral services for the unaccompanied veterans at the state Veterans Cemetery in Boulder City, NV.

Recently, she was selected as the Vice Chairwomen for the Governor's 2015-2016 Women Veterans Advisory Committee that addresses women veterans issues after serving on the committee the previous year.

In July of 2015 she became one of the first certified Veterans Advocate to assist the Veterans Service Officers in connecting veterans to the services and resources that they need.

Congratulations Bobi!



First female I3B recruit: Challenge 'motivated me'

By Kevin Lilley, Staff writer - November 10, 2015

A 21-year-old recruit made history Friday the second she completed her enlistment.

Private Julie Corgan became the first woman to join the service as a cannon crewmember after her entrance processing in Jacksonville, Florida. That military occupational specialty, I3B, along with field artillery automated tactical data system specialist (I3D) officially opened to female soldiers October 28, 2015; granting women access to nearly 20,000 new positions.

Corgan decided to join the service more than a year before her MOS became available, she told Army Times in a Tuesday interview. Initially hoping for a spot in the explosive ordnance disposal field, she was intrigued when a Valdosta, Georgia, recruiter told her about the field artillery opening. "I wanted something that was hands-on. Challenging," she said. "So, I thought this was a good way to get that. ... It's just another challenge. I guess it kind of motivated me."



Pvt. Julie Corgan became the first female Army recruit to join military occupational specialty I3B, cannon crewmember, which opened to women late last month. (Photo: Army)

Then-Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno discussed the Army's plan to open parts of field artillery to women in an interview with Army Times in August, saying that "we felt women, as part of an artillery crew, could do all the things necessary to do that [job], so we've opened that up."

Wish comes true for female WWII vet to attend ball

Linda McIntosh - November 16, 2015

Orilla Lindsey "Lindy" Tabbutt with Camp Pendleton Marines at the Marine Corps Ball. A 95-year old female World War II Navy veteran was a special guest at Camp Pendleton's Combat Logistics Regiment 15's Marine Corps Birthday Ball celebration November 10, 2015

Orilla Lindsey "Lindy" Tabbutt, the wife of the late Harold Tabbutt, a 27 year Marine veteran, was invited to the ball as part of a nonprofit program called Second Wind Dreams.



It was a dream come true for Tabbutt who said the evening brought back a flood of memories of her husband's Marine Corps days. While her husband served as master sergeant in the 2nd Infantry Training Regiment at Camp Pendleton from 1954 to 1957, Tabbutt organized the first Girls Scout troop on base. She also volunteered with Navy Relief for many years and knitted hundreds of baby sweaters to be given to military wives.

Tabbutt answered her call of duty Feb. 23, 1944 joining the Navy WAVES program aka Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service. She attended boot camp at Hunter College in Bronx, New York and served as a yeoman. She was assigned to Navy V-112 unit, Chapel Hill, North Carolina and later worked with other women working on farms. A number of Marines came up to her at the ball and thanked her for her service and for being there.

Grosso pins on 3rd star to become first female USAF personnel

By Stephen Losey, Staff writer - November 16, 2015

Lt. Gen. Gina Grosso, the Air Force's new personnel chief, formally pinned on her third star during a ceremony at the Pentagon Monday.

The first female personnel chief in Air Force history, Grosso said that one of her first tasks will be to get updated on where the Air Force's personnel initiatives and requirements are, and to flesh out the human capital portion of the strategic master plan the service released earlier this year.

"A huge part of our future tasks are going to be putting some meat on the bones" of that plan, Grosso said. "How are we going to further develop these plans to make sure that we have an Air Force that is not only capable today, but in the mid term and the far term?"

Vice Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein delivered remarks at Grosso's ceremony and administered the reaffirmation of her oath. Pinning on her new rank were her father, retired World War II C-47 pilot Lt. Col. Gerry Grosso, who flew troops into battle on D-Day; her mother, Camille Grosso, a nurse; and her husband, retired Col. Brian O'Connor, who was a C-17 pilot.

Goldfein lauded Grosso for her dedication, especially in her previous role as director of the Air Force's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, and said she provided a voice for victims of sexual assault and those who advocate for them.

"To watch how our Air Force leaned forward and led the department when it came to this terrible crime, and to watch, Gina, how you personalized this to make things better for our Air Force, was just an inspiration to all of us," Goldfein said. "I've always appreciated how you take care of your airmen."

Grosso became the deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services last month, taking over for Lt. Gen. Samuel Cox. As the Air Force's AI, Grosso oversees all plans and policies regarding military and civilian personnel management, including end strength management, education and training, compensation, resource allocation and Air Force services worldwide.

Her effective date of promotion was October 15, 2015.

Grosso said the lessons she learned from running the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office will help her as she takes over AI. "What I learned from SAPR is that leaders matter, and nothing gets fixed unless leaders understand the problem, and leaders address the problem," Grosso said when asked what she learned from her previous assignment that she will take into her new job. "But also, I believe there's no task an airman can't achieve. I think that's true in the SAPR arena, and I think that's true in the Air Force at large."

Grosso got her bachelor's degree in applied mathematics and industrial management from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh in 1986, the same year she joined the Air Force. She started out as an operations analyst at the 554th Range Group at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada.

She later got her master's degree in business administration from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, and attended Squadron Officer School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama. Grosso also previously served as the Air Force's director of force management policy, director of manpower, organization and resources, and commander of the joint base and 87th Air Base Wing at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey.



(Photo: Stephen Losey/Air Force)

Women Veterans Memorial Seeks Donations

For the first time since the 1997 Dedication of the Memorial, I am asking everyone who receives this letter to make a donation at this time—the situation is that serious. For those interested in the calendar, our staff is again preparing a very special 2016 themed calendar, “This Is What A Hero Looks Like.” Using photos submitted by our members along with extraordinary archival images from our world-class collection, the calendar will feature women from each military service, beginning with World War I.

Each page will showcase an array of women, past and present, who without a doubt are America’s heroes. Since our calendar announcement letter last year, we’ve added close to 3,000 registrations, bringing our total to just shy of 259,000. With almost 2.3 million living women veterans, we’ve got work to do.



When I meet someone I learn is a veteran, my first words are, “Are you registered?” If the answer is, “no,” my next words are about how to get registered. I’m thinking of carrying an iPad so I can register them on the spot! Don’t be afraid to ask! Help these heroes embrace their legacy and take their rightful and visible place in history—“Tell 3 Women – Pay Forward the Legacy.” If you’re unsure if someone is registered, check with us at 703-931-4204. If you need forms or brochures to use to spread the word or to encourage someone you know to register, let us know so we can send what you need. You can also download a registration form from our website at www.womensmemorial.org, click on “Membership,” or use the secure <http://bit.ly/1I8RuYP>. Donations can be made the same way.

As always, we make the calendar as a token of our appreciation for your commitment to the Memorial and the women who have served. Please give what you are able to give—even if it’s only a dollar—it will certainly help us stay in operation and keep open the doors of America’s only major memorial to honor the some 3 million women who have served. Please help. Please forward this letter to your family, friends and colleagues and ask them to support your Memorial by making a donation in honor of you or another woman who has served.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wilma L. Vaught". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Brig Gen Wilma L. Vaught, USAF (Ret.)
President, Women's Memorial Foundation



Women Veterans of Nevada Annual Christmas Party - Las Vegas



The Women Veterans of Nevada will be holding their annual Christmas Party

Saturday, December 12, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.
The Party will be at the American Legion Post #8,
733 Veterans Memorial Dr, Las Vegas, NV 89101

You are asked to bring a gift, valued \$15-20 for the gift exchange,
that way everyone goes home with a gift.
Please submit your Donation for the meal.

Also, make sure to bring some cash as there will be a very special
raffle with funds going to the Las Vegas Fisher House.

Don't miss out on the chance for the 50/50 drawing.

All Women Veterans are welcome.
You can RSVP with Bobi Oates
boates4616@aol.com
or call 702-498-3045



1940's Era Charity Ball - Reno

The Battle Born Dollz will host a spectacular event each
December called "The Dollz 1940's Era Ball."

The focus of the event is to raise money for Honor
Flight Nevada and Veterans Guest House by taking a step back in time, ticket holders
are encouraged to dress in 1940's attire and live the era for the night.

Complimentary dessert and Cash Bar will be available as well as a silent auction.



Visit Battle Born Dollz
Saturday, December 5, 2015
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM
National Automobile Museum,
10 South Lake Street Reno.

The Battle Born Dollz have chosen to host a spectacular event each December called
"The Dollz 1940's Era Ball." The focus of the event is to raise money for Honor Flight
Nevada and Veterans Guest House by taking a step back in time, ticket holders are
encouraged to dress in 1940's attire and live the era for the night.

- Complimentary dessert
- Cash Bar
- Silent auction

To purchase tickets visit the EventBrite website at:
<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/dollz-1940s-era-charity-ball-tickets-17383018075>

1940'S ERA CHARITY BALL



Veterans Guest House, Inc
www.veteransguesthouse.org
(775) 324-6958

Career Corner



National Career Fairs:

**Henderson Career Fair - Live Hiring Event & Job Fair
with Free iPad Giveaway**

Tuesday, December 1, 2015 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM (PST)
Sunset Station Hotel & Casino: 1301 West Sunset Road; Henderson, NV 89014

To register: <http://bit.ly/ISkyyGH>



Women Veterans Virtual Career Fair

Connect live with recruiters from dozens of America's most veteran friendly companies, and from anywhere you are located in the world.

To Register: <https://vv.veterancareerfairs.com/event/vv/login>

Date: December 8, 2015

Time: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm



**Las Vegas Veteran Job Fair - Las Vegas Motor Speedway
7000 Las Vegas Boulevard, North Las Vegas, NV 89115
December 10, 2015 at 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

Including an educational event: 10:30 AM Grand Canyon University is conducting a special informational seminar, "Understanding Education and Your Career Plans." Let GCU help you understand the correlation between education and career choices. In addition, give us the opportunity to conduct a free, no obligation, pre-evaluation of all prior learning, including your military experience. We will also be available to provide one-on-one counseling regarding GI Bill benefits. Be sure to bring your ARTS/SMARTS/CCAF or unofficial transcripts for a no-obligation on-site evaluation. Space is limited, so please register separately for this seminar at: www.rmrvets.com/lasvegas_gcu



ONE NEVADA - Growing a Skilled, Diverse Workforce

Nevada's Job Bank has the following positions available.

Enroll/Login: <http://nevada.us.jobs/>



Elko area:

NV0378885 - Field Canvassers

NV0378589 - Dietary Aid

Ely area:

NV0378668 - Front Desk Clerk

NV0378864 - Field Canvassers

Fallon:

NV0378861 - Field Canvassers

NV0378804 - Sales Associate I

Pahrump:

NV0376981 - Civil Engineer

NV0377373 - Retail Sales Representative

Las Vegas Metro area:

NV0378614 - Facilities Technician

NV0378900 - ISR Analyst

NV0378714 - General Manager

One Stop Career Center (LV)

NV0378657 - External Account Executive

NV0378903 - Coach Operator

Reno/Sparks/Carson City:

NV0378797 - Data Input Specialist

NV0378837 - Custodians

NV0378736 - Part Time Merchandiser

Winnemucca Area:

NV0378666 - Administrative Office Assistant

NV0378599 - Part Time Yard Driver

Resources for Veterans



Northern Nevada Veterans Resource Center (NNVRC), provides low income & extremely low income veterans assistance through the Department of Veterans Affairs, Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) grant which focuses on homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing. NNVRC also offers veterans and their family members case management and assistance in getting other public benefits as well as temporary financial assistance on behalf of veterans for rent payments, utility payments, security deposits and moving costs.

Recently, NNVRC has partnered with Washoe County to begin the Veteran Service Officers program. This program provides for two Veteran Service Officers (VSO) to be permanently assigned to the site and assist Veterans in applying and obtaining VA benefits.

Southwest Professional Center, 419 W Plumb Lane; Reno, NV 89509
(775) 284-8387



At Pets for Vets, we believe our country owes military veterans a debt of gratitude. Our soldiers have been brave but many of them have returned with physical and emotional injuries that have made it difficult to transition back to civilian life.

Some estimates state that as many as 20% of returning military veterans suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Our goal is to help heal the emotional wounds of military veterans by pairing them with a shelter dog that is specially selected to match his or her personality.

Professional animal trainers rehabilitate the dogs and teach them good manners to fit into the veteran's lifestyle. Training can also include desensitization to wheel chairs or crutches as well as recognizing panic or anxiety disorder behaviors.

Needy shelter dogs receive a second chance at life while giving our returning soldiers a second chance at health and happiness. The bonds of friendship formed between man and animal have the power to ease the suffering of our troops when they return from overseas.

With each veteran-pet match we provide the necessary equipment for them to start their new life together.

To apply: <http://www.petsforvets.com/apply/>

Service Dog



Information

Nevada Humane Society's G.I. DOGS provides both service dogs and companion pets for Nevada's military veterans at no cost to the veteran. The most suitable animals will be selected for this program from the thousands of animals that are abandoned each year.

Service dog requests will be made through appropriate veteran services organizations and these dogs will be trained to perform specific tasks that meet the needs of the individual veteran. Companion pets are completely free to all military veterans as well as the immediate families of active duty and fallen military personnel.

All pets are spayed or neutered, micro-chipped and vaccinated; veterans will also receive free pet food and a starter kit of supplies. Veterans requesting a companion dog will be assisted in the selection of their dogs through an experienced dog trainer.

For Hours of Operation or Information: 775-856-2000

GIDogs@nevadahumanesociety.org and www.nevadahumanesociety.org

OPERATION: Holiday Dinner for Low-income & Homeless Veterans



When: Sat December 5th 2015 @ 2pm to 6pm

Where: Paddy and Irene's pubs

906 Victorian Ave

Sparks NV 89431

Bob and Michelle Mello

775-335-7956 775-846-3662

Please join us on Dec 5th 2015 to help support out low income and Homeless veterans of our community, all veterans eat FREE and non veterans cost is \$10 all funds raised will go to our Local low income and Homeless veterans. VIA -Volunteers of America Veterans and all our local veterans that are in need.

The Reno Sparks Homeless Veterans Drive, and Bob and Michelle Mello would like to see everyone in support our Homeless Hero's are in need let's not forget what they gave for us. Let's give back what we can this winter is a cold one we provide sleeping bags, blankets, coats, socks, shoes, food, hygiene's to our homeless veterans please show your support.

Mello Catering will be catering the Veterans dinner

Holiday Round-up Part 2:

The words "homeless" and "veterans" should never be in the same sentence but unfortunately Reno alone has literally hundreds of homeless veterans and families living either on the streets, in shelters, or in transitional housing. We are reaching out to our community to raise awareness and collectively provide our veterans and their families with a chance to enjoy a holiday meal. Due to lack of cooking facilities for our veterans we are asking for gift cards that can be redeemed at grocery outlets or a cash donation.

Contact the Northern Nevada Veterans Resource Center and help us to help those that have served! 775-284-VETS (8387) Or Visit us at 419 West Plumb Lane; Reno, NV 89509.

Homes for Our Troops

Homes for Our Troops (HFOT) is a privately funded 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization building specially adapted, mortgage-free homes nationwide for the most severely injured Veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan. Most of these Veterans have sustained injuries including multiple limb amputations, partial or full paralysis, and/or severe traumatic brain injury (TBI). These homes restore some of the freedom and independence our Veterans sacrificed while defending our country, and enable them to focus on their family, recovery, and rebuilding their lives. Since its inception in 2004, nearly 90 cents of every dollar donated to Homes for Our Troops has gone directly to our program services for Veterans.

To learn more: <http://www.hfotusa.org/home>

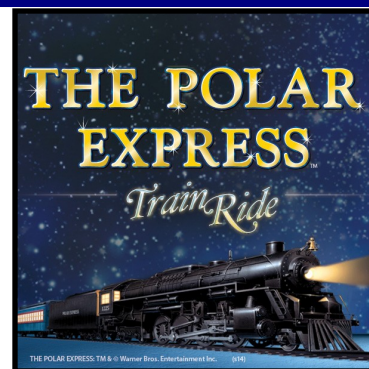


The Polar Express

Are you ready for a little holiday magic? You can meet Santa Claus on our Award Winning Polar Express Train to the North Pole. Experience the magic of Chris Van Allsburg's classic children's book "The Polar Express" come to life on the rails of the Nevada Northern Railway. The journey takes you from Ely, Nevada on a special trip right to the North Pole. Santa's Elves are honored that Nevada Northern Railway's Polar Express train has been voted as the "Best Special Event in Rural Nevada" by readers of Nevada Magazine.

Each passenger to the North Pole will be served hot chocolate and cookies while listening to the beloved story of the Polar Express and music from the Polar Express soundtrack. Many of Santa's helpers will be on-board helping you enjoy the trip. Everyone will experience that magic moment when the train arrives at the North Pole, where Santa Claus himself is waiting! Santa will board The Polar Express and personally present each child their own special gift.

Active Service Military and U.S. Military Veterans receive a 15% discount on excursion trains. Use promo code "military". Tickets will automatically be set to will-call. Bring your military ID to the ticket window for verification to claim your tickets. To learn more: <http://nnry.com/index.php>



Wreaths Across America

Their mission is to, Remember, Honor, and Teach. WAA coordinates wreath laying ceremonies in Northern and Southern Nevada. They also organize of events including international veteran's tributes and ceremonies.

The program is dependent on the generosity and donations made by individual wreaths sponsors, corporate and volunteer donors.

To Donate or to Learn More visit: <http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/>

The next Wreaths Across America ceremony is on Saturday, December 12, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at both Northern and Southern locations. The public is welcome to attend and assist with placing the wreaths following the ceremony.

Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery
14 Veterans Way Fernley, NV 89408

Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery
1900 Buchanan Boulevard, Boulder City, NV 89005



To connect with Nevada Department Veterans Services:

 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NevadaWomenVeterans>

 Twitter: https://twitter.com/NDVS_WVC

 Google+: <http://tinyurl.com/NDVSpge>

 Website: <http://www.veterans.nv.gov/>

 Instagram: [ndvs.wvc](https://www.instagram.com/ndvs.wvc)

 Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/NVWVC/>

 Email: stevensn@veterans.nv.gov

For Help:

Nevada Department of Veterans Services

1 (866) 630-VETS
1 (866) 630-8387

Department of Veterans Affairs

1 (800) 827-1000

VA Suicide Prevention Hotline

1 (800) 273-TALK
1 (800) 273-8255



Necole Stevens
Women Veterans
Program Coordinator
Nevada Department
of Veterans Services

**Southern Nevada
Healthcare System
North Las Vegas
VA Medical Center**

**6900 N Pecos Rd
North Las Vegas,
Nevada 89086**

**Phone: 702.791.9000
ext 15518**

**E-mail:
stevensn@veterans.nv.gov**

Nevada Department of
Veteran Services General
Information (866) 630-8387
Visit www.veterans.nv.gov
for information concerning;
Nevada State
Veterans Home
Southern and Northern
Nevada Veteran
Memorial Cemeteries
Veterans Rural Outreach
"ROVER" Calendar



**"Serving America's
Heroes"**

Honoring Women Veterans

At the Nevada Department of Veterans Services, we're committed to delivering quality services to all Nevada veterans, and these pages will educate you – a woman veteran who proudly defended our freedom – about benefits and resources.



Women have served the cause of freedom in every war and every generation since the Revolution. Those we honor number some 1.8 million, including nearly 24,000 women veterans currently residing in Nevada. Today, more than 25 percent of our military strength worldwide is women, and women serve in almost every capacity in the armed forces, including in combat zones on land, at sea and in the skies. More than 177,000 women from across the country have served as fighter pilots, medics, military police and in other roles since the start of the Global War on Terror.

It's all too common for women veterans to pack away their uniforms and memories upon return to civilian life, never to discuss their experiences again. Many women who honorably served don't even realize they're veterans – or realize their eligibility for benefits. Through these pages, we acknowledge your service and offer several resources to help you understand your status and what it means. By working together, we will achieve success in establishing a network to further communication and women veterans outreach.

Vision

Nevadans across the state understand and celebrate the legacy of America's servicewomen and **all** Nevada women veterans understand and have access to benefits to which they are eligible.

Mission

To provide women veteran benefit and activity information; resolve women veteran problems or refer veterans to NDVS service officers and other beneficial service providers for assistance; and to develop programs and activities that ensure Nevada women veterans understand, and are able to obtain, any aid or benefit to which they may be eligible.

Nominate a Woman Vet for Veteran of the Month

To read the Veteran of the Month Guidelines
and access submission forms please go to:

<http://www.veterans.nv.gov/page/veteran-of-the-month-program>

Submit Pictures and Articles

To submit articles and pictures for publication in the
Women Veterans Informer please email the Women Veterans Coordinator at:

StevensN@veterans.nv.gov